



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Kwan-Ho Chan  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR LIGAMENT  
FIXATION  
Attorney's Docket No.: CHAN-23

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

COPY

VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL BUSINESS ENTITY  
STATUS - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

I, Kwan-Ho Chan, a citizen of Canada residing at Lubbock, Texas, as the inventor named in the above-identified application, hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for the purposes of paying reduced fees under Title 35, United States Code, Sections 41(a) and (b), to the United States Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention described and claimed in the above-identified U.S. Patent Application; that I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, nor based upon information and belief am I under any obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, license or convey any rights in said invention to any person who could not likewise be classified as an independent inventor if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern or a nonprofit organization as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(d) and (e), respectively.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above-identified application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Date: May 19, 1999

Kwan-Ho Chan  
Kwan-Ho Chan